

How do I make an appointment?

Phone 1300 364 277 and ask to speak with a Past Adoption Support Service Worker. The Worker will arrange an appointment at a time convenient to you.

What does it cost?

This is a free service.

This service is funded by the Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services.



Sometimes it just helps to talk with someone

With our assistance searching for your records can be easier

Where are we located?

Relationships Australia Tasmania has offices in Hobart, Launceston and Devonport and provides counselling and support for those affected by forced adoption.

To speak with a support worker from the Past Adoption Support Service contact:

Hobart

20 Clare Street
New Town TAS 7008
ph: **1300 364 277**
fax: 03 6279 5073

Launceston

6 Paterson Street
Launceston TAS 7250
ph: **1300 364 277**
fax: 03 6332 8015

Devonport

68 North Fenton Street
Devonport TAS 7310
phone: **1300 364 277**
fax: 03 6421 3605

email: admin@reltas.com.au
tas.relationships.org.au

Outreach services to your community can also be provided.

The logo for Relationships Australia Tasmania, featuring the text "Relationships Australia" in a white script font and "TASMANIA" in a white sans-serif font, set against a dark blue background. To the right of the text are three vertical bars in orange, yellow, and brown.

Relationships Australia
TASMANIA

Past Adoption Support Service

Support for individuals and families in Tasmania affected by forced adoption practices

The Past Adoption Support Service is a program of Relationships Australia Tasmania and is funded through the Department of Health and Human Services. The service is free and confidential.

What is the Past Adoption Support Service?

The Past Adoption Support Service is a specialist service that has been established to support mothers, fathers and children who have been affected by past forced adoption practices.

Forced adoptions refer to instances of adoption where a child's natural parent or parents were compelled, against their will or wishes, to relinquish a child for adoption. These practices occurred in Tasmania up until the 1980s and continue to deeply impact the lives of many people.

On 18 October 2012, Tasmanian Premier Lara Giddings formally apologised to families who were subjected to forced adoption practices. As part of the apology the Premier announced support services for those people suffering pain and loss as a result of their past adoption experiences.

Services and supports provided include

- assistance to search for records
- counselling
- group support

Counselling sessions are tailored to suit your needs and may be short or long-term. Phone counselling is also an option.

Group support provides a safe environment for participants to share their thoughts, experience and knowledge, if they wish to do so.

Who provides the service?

Our professional counsellors are experienced in supporting clients with the issues that arise from forced adoption including grief and loss, trauma, anger, rejection and identity.

Our counsellors understand that everyone's experience is different. They will gently assist clients to identify their needs and explore options in a safe and supportive environment.

Confidentiality

Your personal information is confidential. Relationships Australia Tasmania has clear policies and procedures about the security of client information and adheres to the requirements of state and federal privacy legislation.

For those affected by past
forced adoption practices

phone 1300 364 277
tas.relationships.org.au